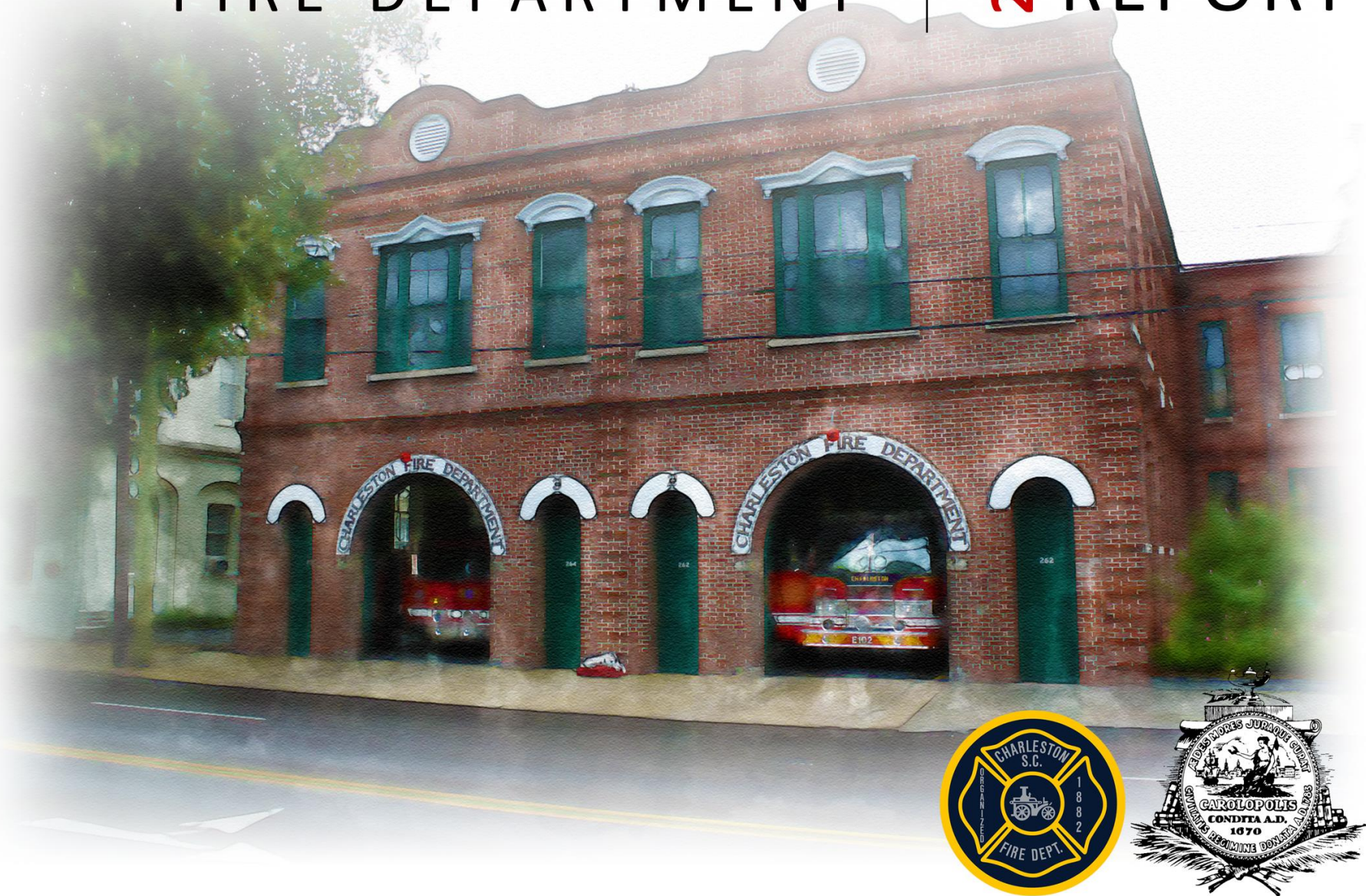


CHARLESTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

2015 ANNUAL
REPORT



Letter from the Fire Chief

On behalf of the members of the Charleston Fire Department I am privileged to present the 2015 Annual Report. This report highlights the exceptional services provided by the members of the department to the citizens and visitors we are honored to assist.

2015 was an outstanding year for the Charleston Fire Department. The department achieved two benchmarks which are indicative of the level of service we strive to provide. We received an Insurance Services Organization (ISO) Public Protection Class 1 rating in May. The ISO ratings process involves a detailed analysis of all fire department operations, including fire suppression capabilities, community risk reduction and fire prevention efforts, communications, training, water supply, available equipment, and the distribution of emergency response vehicles. These factors are used to determine the organization's capabilities and service levels. On August 26, 2015, the Charleston Fire Department was granted accredited status by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The accreditation process is a comprehensive self- and peer-assessment which examines service levels and performance as compared to industry best practices. Accredited status recognizes a department's organizational and operational strengths, while providing recommendations that are converted to a roadmap for continued improvement. The department is reassessed every five years by CFAI to ensure it is on a path of continual improvement and high quality service delivery.

These accomplishments are the result of many years of dedication and commitment by the members of the department. They are also the result of unwavering support from our elected officials and community.

This report outlines the many roles and responsibilities that our dedicated professionals fulfill daily along with data on how effectively we fulfill our mission. It also highlights the many other areas of achievement from 2015.

Please be assured that this commitment to progress and excellence are hallmarks of all Charleston Fire Department members and we consider it an honor to serve.



**Fire Chief
Karen Brack**

Karen E. Brack
Fire Chief

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Our Mission Statement

The purpose of the Charleston Fire Department is to assure a safe community through prevention and the robust delivery of professional fire/rescue services.

Our firefighters are our most precious resource—we will never put their lives in danger for unnecessary risk when human life is not in immediate peril.

Our Vision Statement

The Charleston Fire Department will be recognized as a professional, competent and service minded organization that promotes and embodies exceptional public safety and community risk reduction services that are unequalled.

Our Value Statements

- We believe in sustained and fully-supported readiness—achieved through seeking and obtaining the highest levels of training available.
- We support implementing the best fire service practices and seek emerging technologies to enhance firefighting capabilities and firefighter safety.
- We respect our citizens and will use the resources they give us judiciously; and we honor our unique historic community, its diverse population, and the surrounding environment.
- We believe that the best way to achieve community risk-reduction is through public education and code enforcement.

Department Historical Overview

1784 - Hand in Hand Fire Company Organized, consisted of a bucket brigade

1801 - Charleston Fire Company of Axemen formed, the first hand engine company

1816 - Eagle Fire Company

1819 - Vigilant Fire Company

1826 - Phoenix and Charleston Fire Companies

1829 - Aetna Fire Company

1838 - German Fire Company

1839 - Marion Fire Company

1840 - Palmetto Fire Company

1842 - Hope Fire Company

1849 - Washington Fire Company

1861 - First Steam Fire Engine purchased by the Charleston Fire Company of Axemen

1861 - Most devastating firestorm in city's history. Caused \$7,000,000 in damage (Equal to \$182,010,697 in 2015)

1882 - Mayor William A. Courtenay organized the paid Charleston Fire Department and disbanded the volunteers.

1905 - First automobile purchased to replace the fire chief's horse and buggy

1910 - First motorized fire engine purchased

1974 - Fire department switched from a 24 hours on duty/24 hours off duty work schedule to a 24 on/48 off work schedule

1989 - Hurricane Hugo devastated the City of Charleston

1991 - Albright & Wilson Americas Inc. chemical plant explosion. Resulted in the formation of the Charleston Fire Department Hazardous Materials Response Team

2007 - Sofa Superstore Fire, resulted in the deaths of nine Charleston Firefighters

2010— The Fire Marshal Division was reformed as a result of the Sofa Superstore Fire

2015 - Charleston Fire Department receives a Class 1 Public Protection Class (PPC) rating in May, and became an internationally accredited fire department in August

Charleston Fire Chiefs

Frank L. O'Neill (1882-1894)

O. G. Marjenhoff (1894-1906)

Louis Behrens (1907-1932)

John H. Wohlers (1933-1942)

George W. Stout (1942-1943)

Norman G. Olsen (1943-1957)

Fred Shokes (1958-1967)

Wilmot E. Guthke (1967-1992)

Russell B. Thomas, Jr. (1992-2008)

Thomas Carr (2008-2012)

Karen E. Brack (2012-Present)

Fire Department Highlights 2015

- The department achieved two significant milestones in 2015, accreditation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, Center for Public Safety Excellence (CFAI/CPSE), and a Class 1 rating from the Insurance Service Office (ISO)
- Developed and released first “Standard of Cover” outlining response performance and capabilities
- Took delivery of first water tender to support operations in areas without hydrants
- Converted two 4x4 pickup trucks to brush trucks to provide mitigation capabilities for rural and wildland urban interface incidents
- Awarded an Advanced Life Support (ALS) License from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for Marine 101 to provide paramedic capabilities onboard the fire boat
- Completed work on the architectural design phase of the Carolina Bay Fire Station #14
- Received a FEMA Grant (\$375,349) for the design, engineering, and permitting phase of a proposed retrofit to Fire Station 6 (Cannon Street) to bring the 1888 structure up to modern day standards
- A Public Safety millage increase was passed by the Mayor and City Council for public safety facility improvements and construction.
- Received a \$15,002 grant from Firehouse Subs for emergency medical training equipment
- 11 new members added to the Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Response Team
- The Honor Guard represented the department at 15 funerals and civic events
- Conducted high-rise firefighting training at the Sergeant Jasper Apartments
- All Members completed a “Fireground Survival Course,” developed by the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF)
- All Members completed a “Large Area Search” training program for searching for trapped persons in buildings greater than 3,000 square feet
- Completed 32 sessions of Command Competency Training

Fire Department Highlights 2015 (Continued)

- Department hosted nine Joint Command Officer Training sessions
- The department's Blue Card Incident Command Training Center hosted six certification sessions
- 19 personnel completed an 80-hour Officer Development Program developed and hosted by the CFD
- The department completed its second year of ensuring all operational personnel receive a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant medical physical
- Rolled out a Peer Fitness Program to reduce on the job injuries and improve the overall health of personnel
- Peer Fitness Team conducted 280 evaluations of response personnel
- Initiated a Deputy Safety Officer Program to assist the Health and Safety Officer
- All members of the Marine Team became certified to conduct emergency helicopter hoist operations with the USCG AIRFAC Charleston
- Marine 101 became certified as an emergency helicopter hoist platform by the USCG AIRFAC Charleston
- Marine Team established a rescue swimmer program certifying all members through the United States Lifesaving Association (USLA)
- Established an in-house program to clean, test, and repair the personal protective clothing and equipment worn by firefighters
- Developed and utilized an annual preventive maintenance calendar for fire apparatus and fleet vehicles
- Fire Marshal Division celebrated its fifth year of service
- Multiple arrests made on cases involving possible arson as a fire cause
- Improved investigative partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF)
- Partnered with North Charleston and Mt. Pleasant Fire Departments to create a joint fire safety video on kitchen fires
- Fully implemented the i-Pad Firehouse Inspector Program, dramatically reducing the amount of records
- **The City of Charleston experienced no fire related fatalities in 2014 or 2015.**



Fire Chief Brack and members of the CHARLESTON FIRE DEPARTMENT receiving award of International Accreditation from CFAI Chairman Steve Westerman



Class 1 ISO Rating

In May 2015, the Charleston Fire Department was awarded a Class 1 Public Protection Class (PPC) rating from the Insurance Service Office (ISO). ISO uses a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) to determine the PPC. The ISO's FSRS evaluates four primary categories of fire suppression: fire department, emergency communications, water supply, and community risk reduction. The FSRS includes standards set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

ISO's FSRS lists a large number of items a community should have to effectively respond to fires and assigns credit points for each item. Using those credit points and various formulas, ISO calculates a total score on a scale of 0 to 105.5. The department received a score of 93.14.

ISO Rating Scale

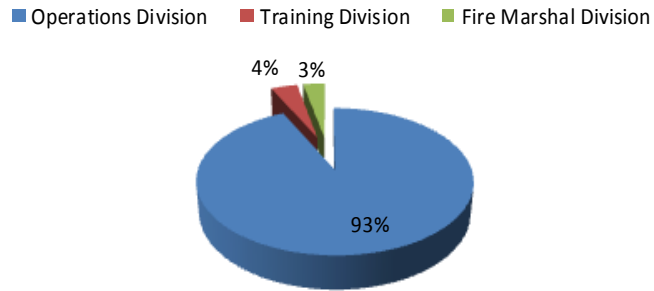
PPC	Point Scale
1	90.00 or more
2	80.00 to 89.99
3	70.00 to 79.99
4	60.00 to 69.99
5	50.00 to 59.99
6	40.00 to 49.99
7	30.00 to 39.99
8	20.00 to 29.99
9	10.00 to 19.99
10	0.00 to 9.99

In August 2015, the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) completed a comprehensive review and appraisal of the Charleston Fire Department and granted the department accredited status. After a vote of approval by members of the CFAI, the Charleston Fire Department became the eighth department in South Carolina and the 208th in the United States to receive accreditation.

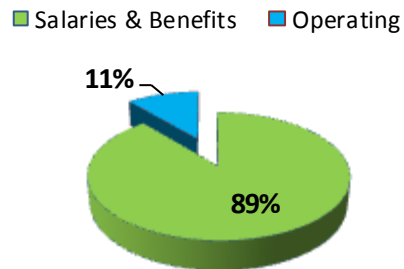
Accreditation is a comprehensive assessment and evaluation model for fire and emergency service organizations. The accreditation process evaluates the performance of the agency and helps to determine community risks and fire safety needs. The assessment process identified strengths and weaknesses within the department, provided a detailed evaluation of the services the department provides to the community, created methods for addressing deficiencies, and encourages the organization to maintain a process of continuous improvement.

Budget & Finance

Charleston Fire Department 2015 Budget Allocation



Charleston Fire Department 2015 Distribution of Funding



2015 Approved Fire Department Budget

Fire Division : \$25,694,744

Fire Training Division: \$1,086,416

Fire Marshal Division: \$816,771

Total Fire Department Budget: \$27,597,931

***Note: Apparatus purchases are not included.**

Authorized Full-time Employees (FTEs)

Uniformed/Sworn Firefighters: 324

Civilians/Non-sworn: 21.5



Charleston Fire Department members are presented with equipment and training aids acquired through a Firehouse Subs Grant.

2015 Incident Responses

The Charleston Fire Department responded to 21,169 calls for service in 2015. Rescue and Emergency Medical Service incidents accounted for 57% of the call volume.

Response time performance is measured in accordance with the requirements of the Center for Public Safety Excellence for the purpose of maintaining accreditation and improving response times. Response measurements are taken in each of the following areas and measured against the benchmark:

Benchmark: nationally considered best practice that is used to compare actual performance. The benchmark is a goal that the department is trying to reach or meet.

Call Process: amount of time it takes for the dispatch center to answer the 911 call and dispatch the appropriate resources.

Turnout Time: amount of time it takes for personnel and apparatus to get en route to the call once dispatched.

Travel Time First Unit: amount of time it takes for the first unit to drive to the scene

First Unit Arrival: amount of time it takes for the first unit to arrive on scene from the time the call was received.

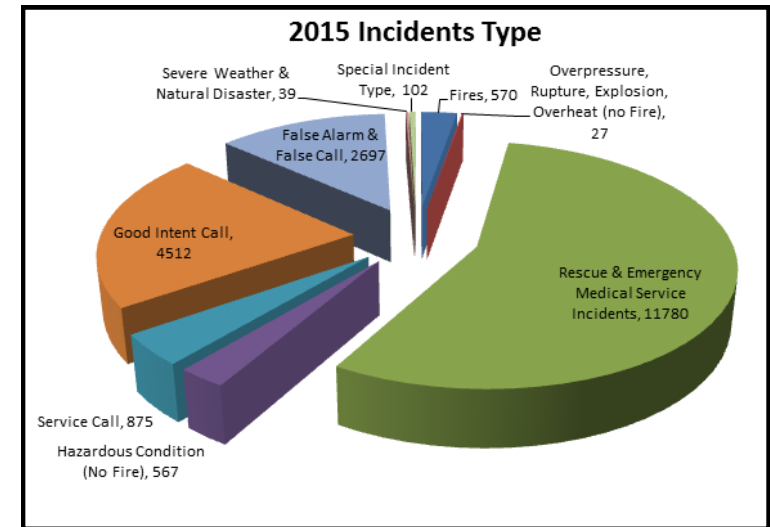
ERF (Effective Response Force): time it takes for a predetermined sufficient amount of personnel to arrive on scene to mitigate the incident effectively.

Due to the low number of structure fires occurring in suburban or rural areas (less than 10) within the city limits, data was insufficient for calculating response time elements for 90% performance.

Metro-Urban: land area with a population density of at least 2,000 people per square mile.

Moderate Risk Structure Fires: fires occurring in single family residential buildings.

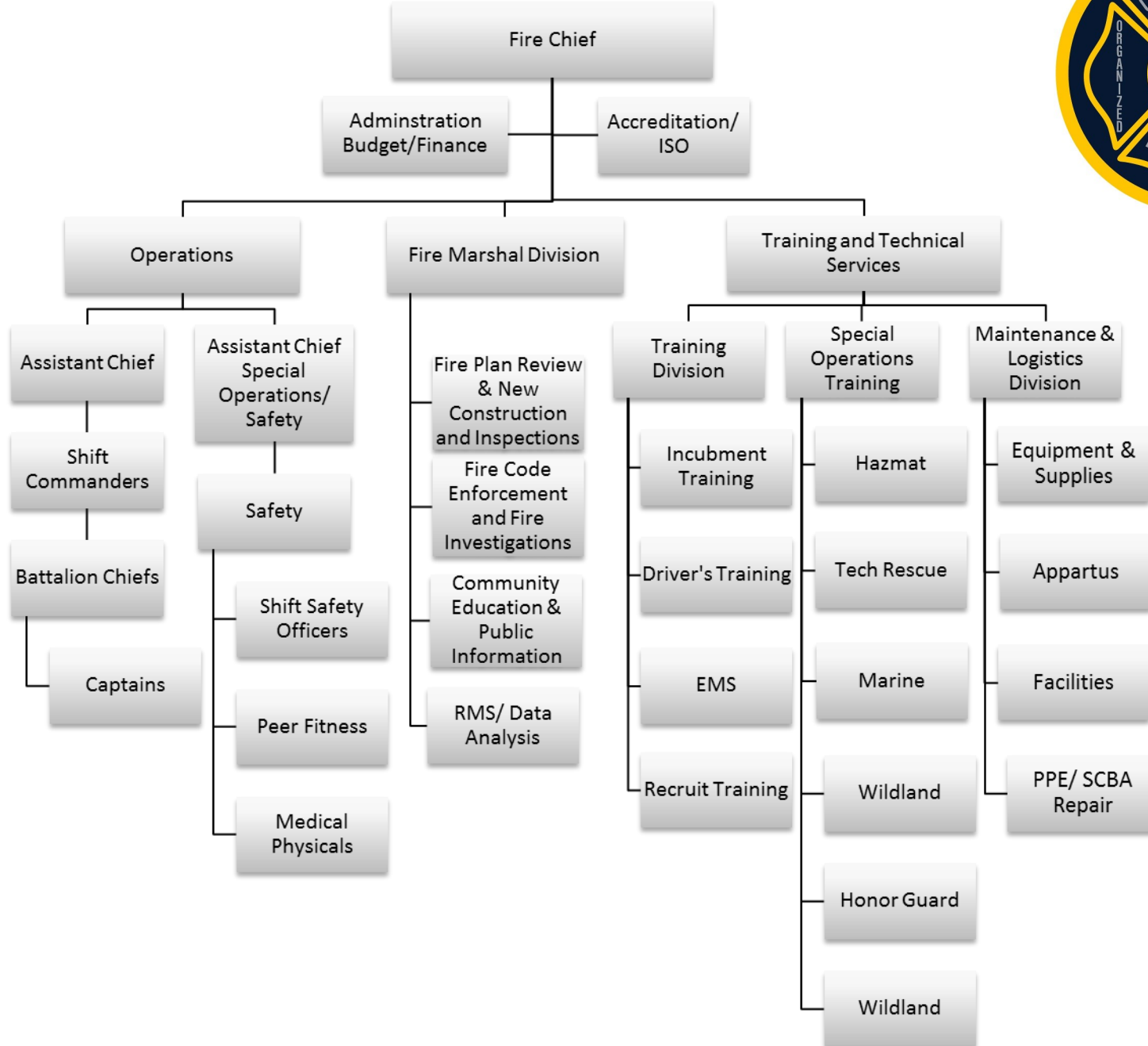
High Risk Structure Fires: fires occurring in multi-family residential buildings, commercial businesses, manufacturing facilities, schools, churches, etc.



2015 90% Performance for Structure Fire Response compared to Benchmarks					
	Call Process	Turnout Time	Travel Time First Unit	First Unit Arrival	ERF
Benchmark Metro Urban Moderate Risk	2:00	1:30	4:00	7:30	11:30
Metro Urban Moderate Risk (27 Calls)	1:31	1:24	3:40	6:42	12:20
Benchmark Metro Urban High Risk	2:00	1:30	4:00	7:30	11:30
Metro Urban High Risk (26 Calls)	0:56	1:07	3:54	6:11	10:20

2015 90% Performance for All Emergency Medical Calls compared to Benchmark				
	Call Process	Turnout Time	Travel Time First Unit	First Unit Arrival
Benchmark	2:00	1:30	4:00	7:30
Performance (11,525 calls)	1:25	1:40	6:10	8:20

Charleston Fire Department 2016 Organizational Chart



Charleston Fire Department Command Staff



**Fire Chief
Karen Brack**

The Command Staff is focused on carrying out the mission, vision, values of the agency by providing oversight and management of the department on a day-to-day basis acting as representatives of the fire chief. They are responsible for the development of standard operating procedures, developing a yearly work plan, ensuring that personnel are provided with proper tools and equipment to perform their job, and to act as advisors to incident commanders during emergency situations. The Command Staff helps to maintain a proper span of control to ensure the organization's efficiency.



**Chief Brack promoting Engineers T. Miles
and A. Glover to Captain**



**Deputy Chief of
Operations
John Tippet**



**Deputy Chief of Training and
Technical Services
Mark Davis**



**Chief Fire Marshal
Mike Julazadeh**



**Administrative Services
Manager
Cassandra McSwain**

Charleston Fire Department Administrative Division



**Accreditation Manager
Battalion Chief
Michael Hanuscin**



**Fire Department
Secretary
Jackie Millett**



**Finance
Coordinator
Pam Blevins**



**Administrative
Assistant
BJ Danner**



**Administrative Specialist
Fire Marshal Division
Debbie Brown**



**Pam Blevins and Veronica Varn
working on payroll**



Jackie Millett reviewing documents

The Administrative Division is overseen by the fire chief and is managed by the Administrative Services Manager. The Administrative Division provides oversight of the department's day-to-day operations including: implementation of written directives, accreditation, human resource functions, recruitment, retention, budget, finance, and purchasing.



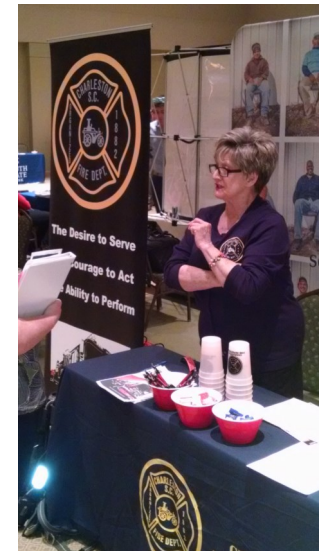
**Administrative Specialist
Fire Marshal Division
Sybil Richardson**



**Administrative Specialist
Technical Services
Veronica Varn**



**Administrative Specialist
Training Division
Ashley Blake**



**BJ Danner recruiting
prospective employees
at a local career fair**

Operations Division

The primary focus of the Operations Division is to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors of Charleston. This focus is maintained through a commitment to the health, wellness, safety, and operational readiness of the division's personnel. The Operations Division is led by the Deputy Chief of Operations and three assistant chiefs. The deputy chief ensures 24/7 operational readiness and carries out the directives of the fire chief. One assistant chief provides day-to-day coordination of the three shifts, one assistant chief oversees the special operations section, and one assistant chief is assigned as the quality control officer for incident reporting.

Field operations are broken down into four geographic battalions. Each battalion contains three to seven individual companies that staff strategically located fire stations. The battalions are supervised by 12 battalion chiefs (four per shift, one of which serves as the shift commander) who command three shifts of captains, engineers, assistant engineers, and firefighters. Personnel are assigned to one of three working shifts (A,B,C). The shift schedule is a combination 24 hours on duty and 48 hours off duty. The department maintains four special operations groups for technically challenging incident response: Safety, HAZMAT, Marine, and Technical Rescue. The department is in the process of establishing a "Wildland Urban Interface" team that will become operational in 2016.

Specialty areas are explained in the subsequent pages.

Assistant Chiefs



**Assistant Chief of
Operations**
Christopher Vanhoy

Position
Currently
Vacant

**Assistant Chief of
Special Operations /
Safety**



**Assistant Chief of
Quality Control**
Raymond Lloyd



Hanover Street Fire

Shift Commanders



A-Shift
Battalion 103
Battalion Chief
Richard Williams

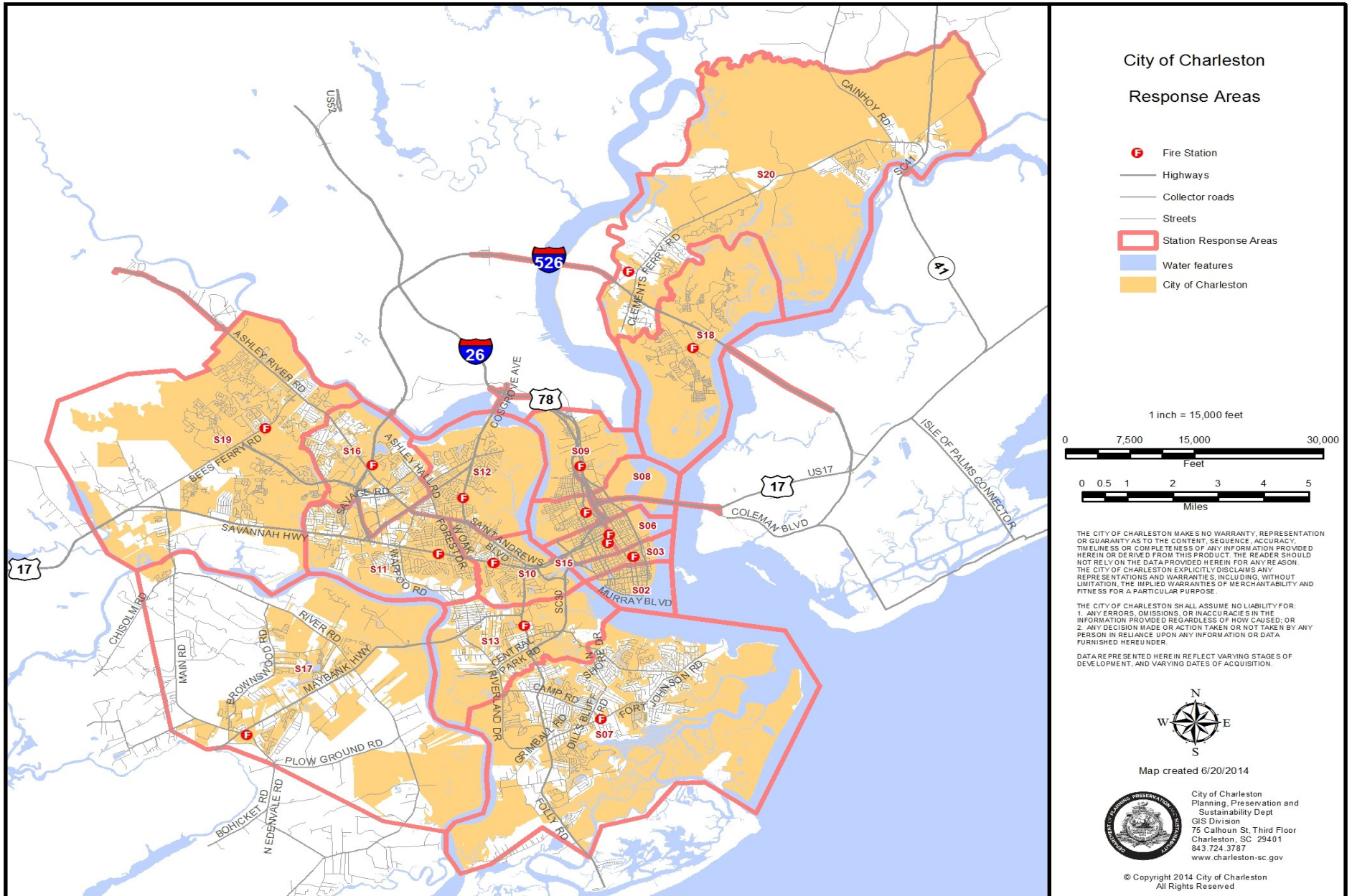


B-Shift
Battalion 103
Battalion Chief
Joseph Roberts



C-Shift
Battalion 103
Battalion Chief
Bryan Kleskie

Operations Division: Map of Fire Station Locations & Districts





Central Station: Engine 102 & 103
262 & 264 Meeting Street



Battalion 103 & Engine 106
5 Cannon Street



Engine 108
370 Huger Street



Headquarters/ Station 9
Engine 109 & HAZMAT 101
1451 King Street Extension



Ladder 104 & Engine 115
162 Coming Street



Battalion 104 & Engine 111
1517 Savannah Hwy.



Engine 112 & Air 101
1352 Old Towne Road



Engine 116
81 Ashley Hall Plantation Road



Tower 102 & Engine 119
1985 Bees Ferry Road



Engine 107
1173 Fort Johnson Road



Tower 105 & Engine 110
1 Nicholson Drive



Battalion 105 & Engine 113
358 Folly Road



Engine 117 & Brush 102
1830 Bohicket Road



Engine 120, Tender 101,
Brush 101
1006 Pinefield Road



Battalion 106, Ladder 101,
Engine 118
235 Seven Farms Drive

Operations Division: Emergency Medical Response/Fire Suppression

The Charleston Fire Department provides fire suppression and emergency medical response using a myriad of equipment and fire apparatus. Equipment and apparatus are chosen based on the type of risk identified in the City of Charleston's jurisdictional boundaries. All engine and ladder companies are equipped to perform fire suppression tactics and provide emergency medical care at the basic life support level of service. The Charleston Fire Department works cooperatively with Charleston and Berkeley County Emergency Medical Services to provide EMS care.



Light & Air Truck: Vehicle equipped with onboard air compressor for filling cylinders on scene, generator and light tower, along with on scene rehabilitation equipment.



Fire Pumper or Engine: Carries 750 gallons of water and is able to pump 1,500 gallons per minute when supplied from a fire hydrant or drafting. Carries a variety of equipment.



Water Tender: Used to transport water for fire fighting in areas that do not have hydrants. Carries 2,000 gallons of water and is able to quickly unload into a portable drop tank.



Tractor Drawn Aerial Ladder Truck: Capable of reaching the seventh floor of a building, provides steering capabilities over the rear wheels of the trailer for increased maneuverability. Typically referred to as a tillered ladder.



Tower Ladder: This apparatus is equipped with a platform at the end of its ladder to transport personnel and victims. Carries a variety of equipment to perform forcible entry, rescue/extrication, and perform fire suppression tasks.



Command Vehicle: Transports the battalion chief to the scene of emergencies and provides equipment necessary to command the incident scene from start to finish.

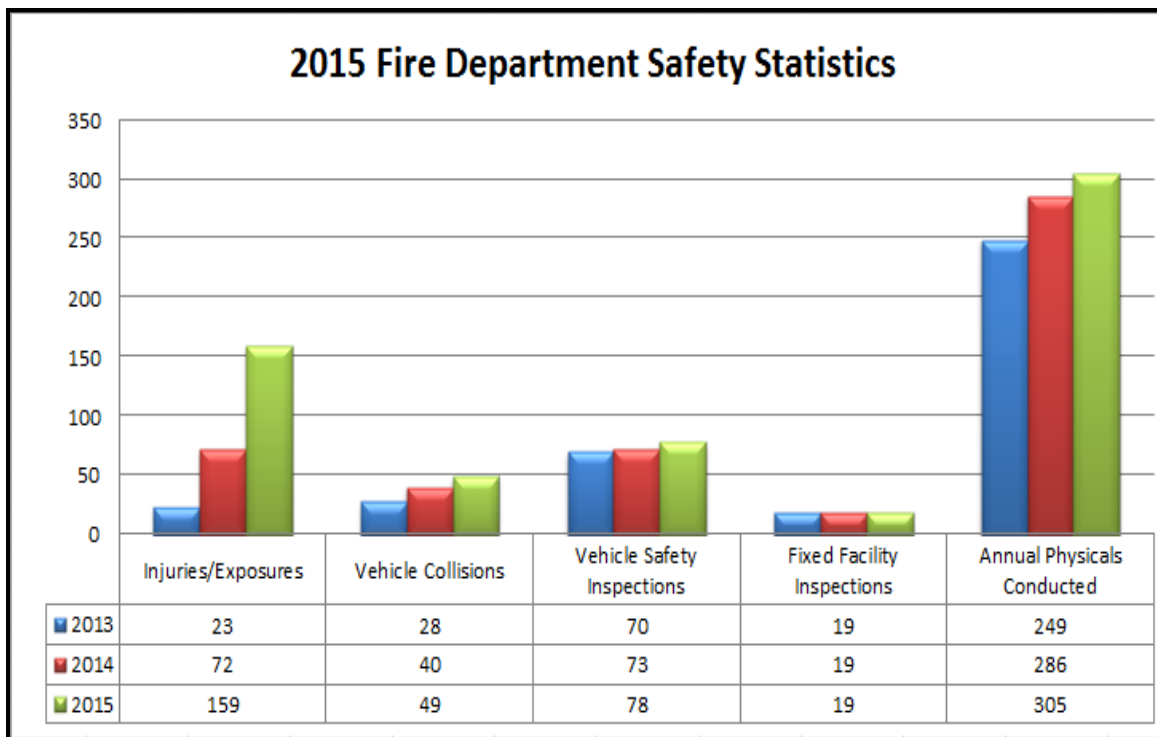
Operations Division: Safety

The Safety Division ensures that the Charleston Fire Department meets or exceeds industry best practices for providing a safe working environment for employees. The division is responsible for promoting safety and reducing employee exposure to needless risk, tracking all personnel injuries and vehicle collisions, coordinating annual physicals for firefighters, and performing safety inspections of equipment, vehicles, and fixed facilities.

The Health and Safety Officer is responsible for this division. He is assisted by three Deputy Safety Officers, one per shift. The Health and Safety Officer reports to the Deputy Chief of Special Operations/Safety. All four members of the Safety Division are certified safety officers through the Fire Department Safety Officer's Association (FDSOA).



Health & Safety Officer
Battalion Chief
Greg Chesher



Crews working at fire on Marsh Island Drive

Operations Division: Special Operations - HAZMAT



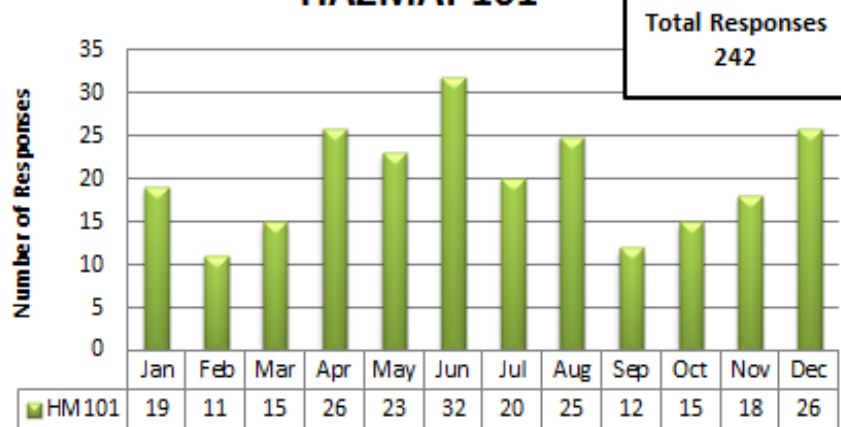
The Charleston Fire Department operates a FEMA Type II Hazardous Materials Response Team. The Team is comprised of personnel distributed throughout the department's three shifts. A four-person crew from Engine 109 cross staffs the response vehicle, HAZMAT 101. Cross staffing occurs when crews staff a primary response vehicle and switch over to staff a specialized vehicle when it is needed for specific emergency incidents. Personnel on the team are certified HAZMAT Technicians, Clandestine Lab Technicians, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Technicians. Members of the team also serve on the Regional Response Team for Hazardous Materials Response and WMD incidents. The team is subject to callout on a regional and statewide basis.

The team is currently led by Captain Daniel Chavous, who reports to the Assistant Chief of Special Operations. The HAZMAT Team Commander is assisted by a Deputy Commander, HAZMAT Safety Officer, and HAZMAT Training Officer.

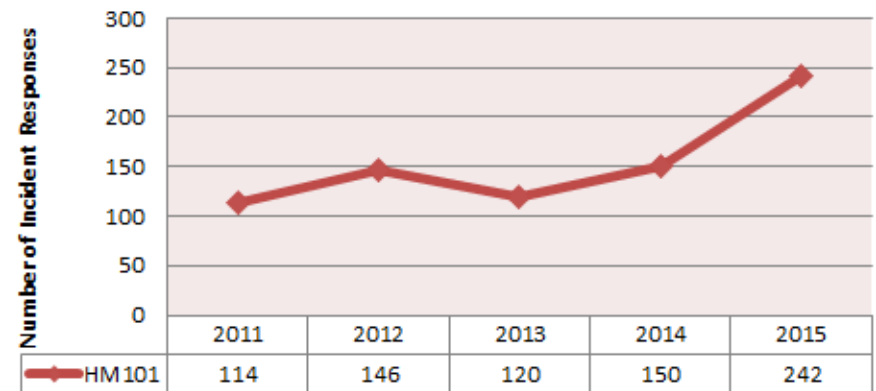


HAZMAT Team Commander
Captain Daniel Chavous

2015 Apparatus Responses for HAZMAT 101



HAZMAT 101 Incident Response History by Year

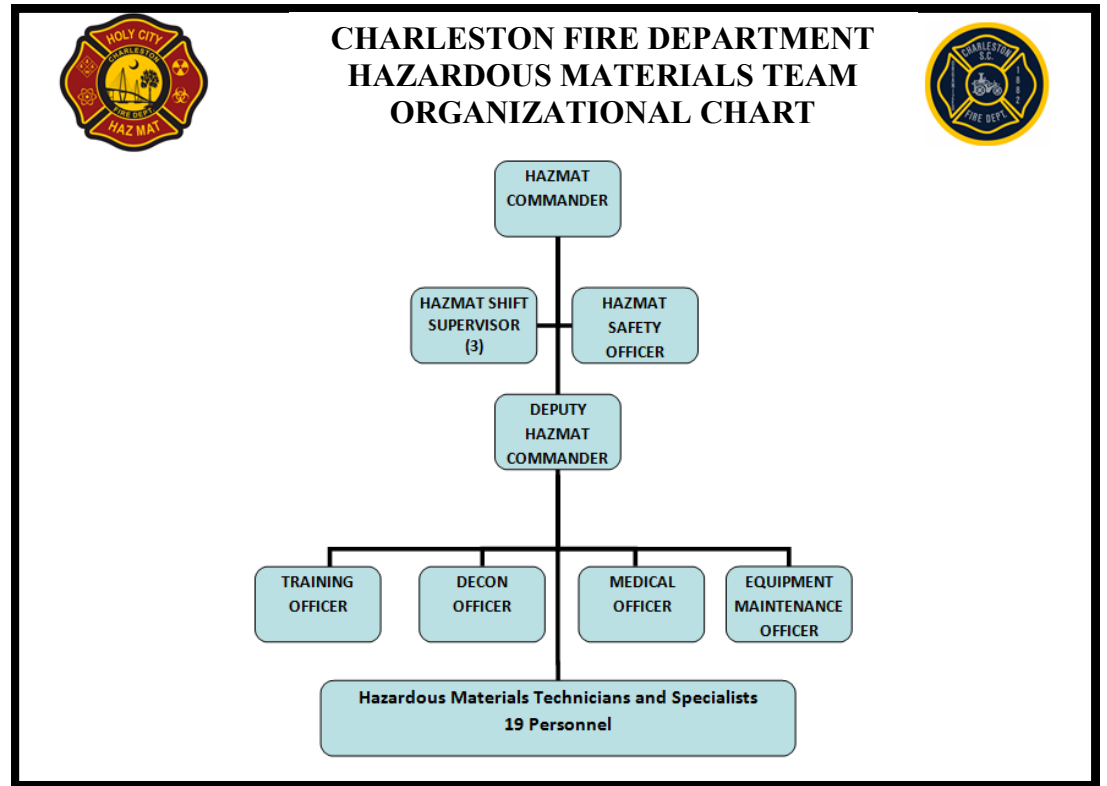




HAZMAT Team working in the cold zone of a diesel tanker collision with leak on the Ravenel Bridge



Members participating in full team drill onboard the USS Yorktown



HAZMAT 101: Carries specialized equipment for mitigating hazardous materials incidents. Equipment includes: air/gas monitors, radiation detectors, protective clothing, leak stop devices, and decontamination equipment



Operations Division: Special Operations - Technical Rescue/USAR

The Charleston Fire Department Technical Rescue Program/Team exists to provide emergency response to a variety of likely technical rescue incidents occurring within the City of Charleston's jurisdiction and the State of South Carolina. The team has the capability to mitigate the following types of incidents: high and low angle rope rescue, trench rescue, confined space rescue and standby, structural collapse, advanced vehicle extrication, machinery extrication, urban and rural land search, storm response, and support operations for large scale events.

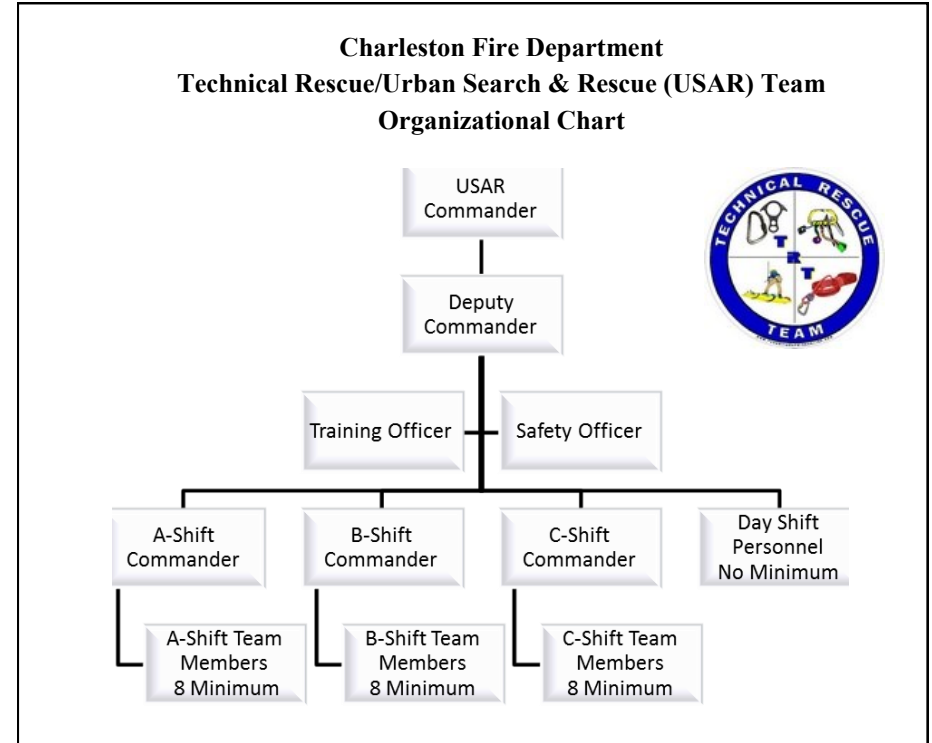
Captain Anthony Morley leads the Technical Rescue/USAR Program and reports to the Assistant Chief of Special Operations. The USAR Team Commander is assisted by a Deputy Commander, USAR Safety Officer, and USAR Training Officer.



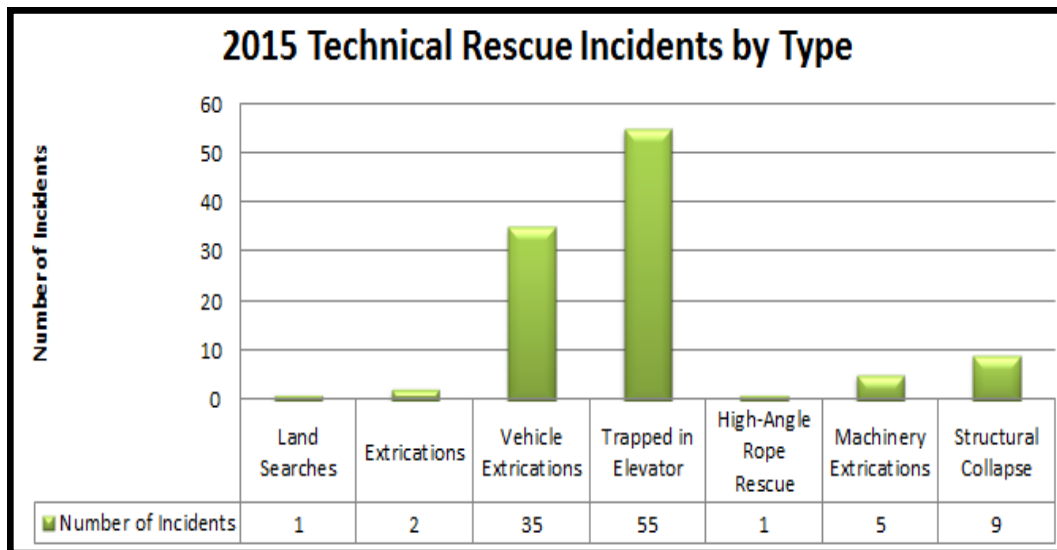
USAR Commander
Captain Anthony Morley



**Search camera used to locate victims trapped
inside of collapsed structures and buildings**



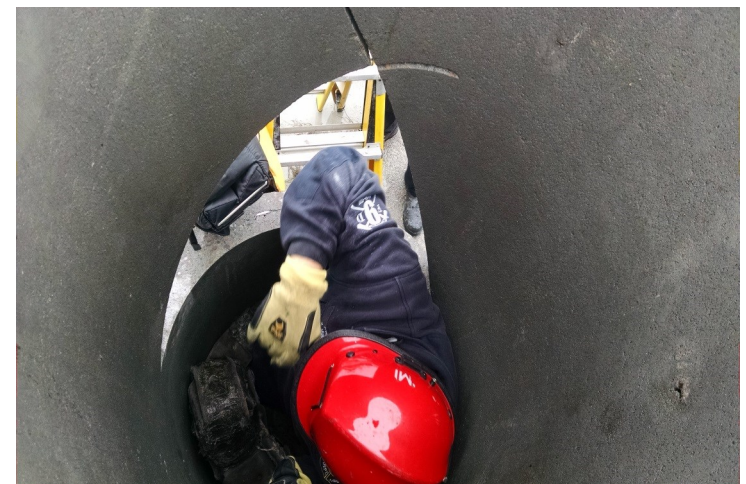
**Members training at Charleston Fire Department Drill
Tower**



Rope rescue of patient off a ship at Union Pier



USAR Training: patient removal and packaging by using a SKED Removal Device



Confined Space Rescue Training

Operations: Special Operations - Marine Division

The Charleston Fire Department Marine Division provides a professionally trained response team to maritime emergencies in the greater Charleston area. This includes, but is not limited to, shoreline, near shore and off shore areas of the Charleston Harbor.

The Louis Behrens named after the third chief of the fire department (call sign Marine 101), is a 36' Metal Craft Firestorm Fireboat. The vessel is equipped with a 3,000 GPM fire pump that was delivered to Charleston and placed in service late 2012. Marine 101 is crossed staffed by Engine Company 102 with a minimum crew of four trained maritime personnel.

The Marine Division is comprised of 27 members, 10 holding certifications as USCG-OUPV licensed Captains. The Marine Division is led by Captain Rob Fulmer who reports to the Assistant Chief of Special Operations. Members of the Marine Division as well as other Charleston Fire Department personnel participate in the Charleston County Marine Incident Response Team (MIRT).



Marine 101 training with US Coast Guard conducting helicopter lifts from moving vessel

SEA TIME

The Marine Team spent a total of 5,280 hours underway in 2015, performing various missions that included: training, emergency response, and harbor safety

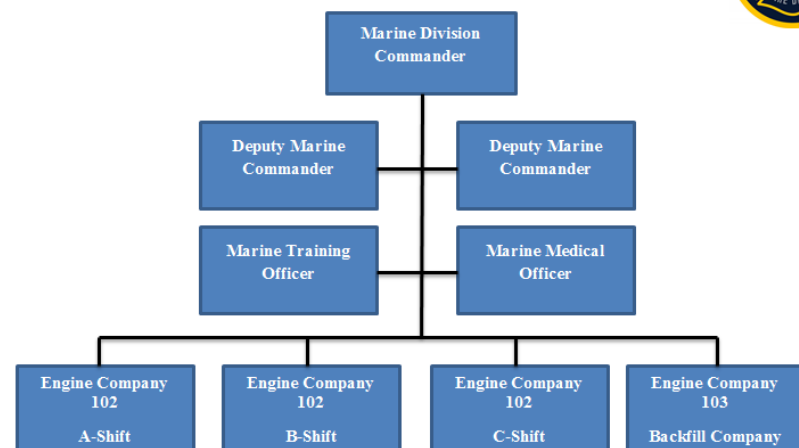
TRAINING

Each member of the Marine Team averaged 200 hours of marine training in 2015.

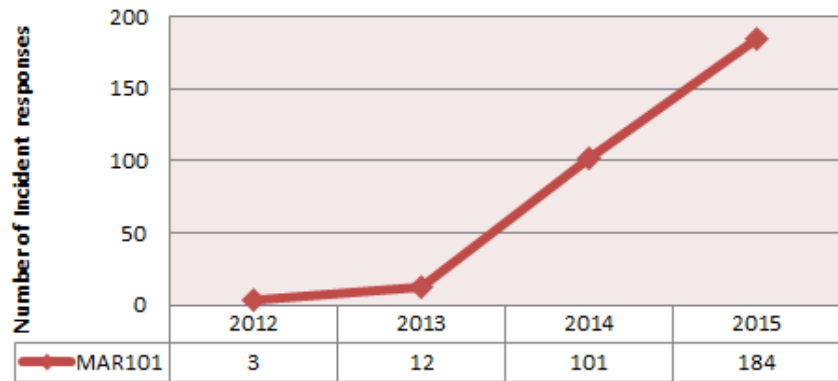


Marine Commander
Captain Rob Fulmer

Charleston Fire Department Marine Division Organizational Structure



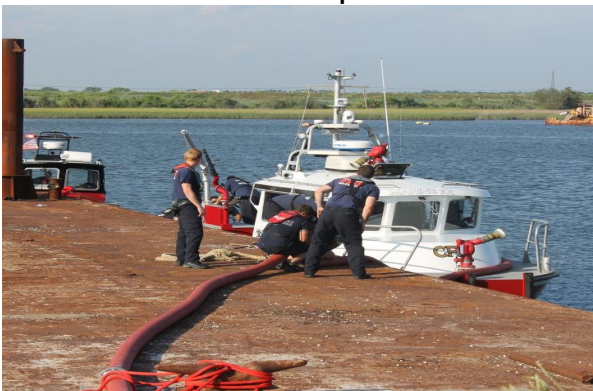
Marine 101 Incident Response History by Year



Marine 101 training on supplying water to land based fire apparatus and crews

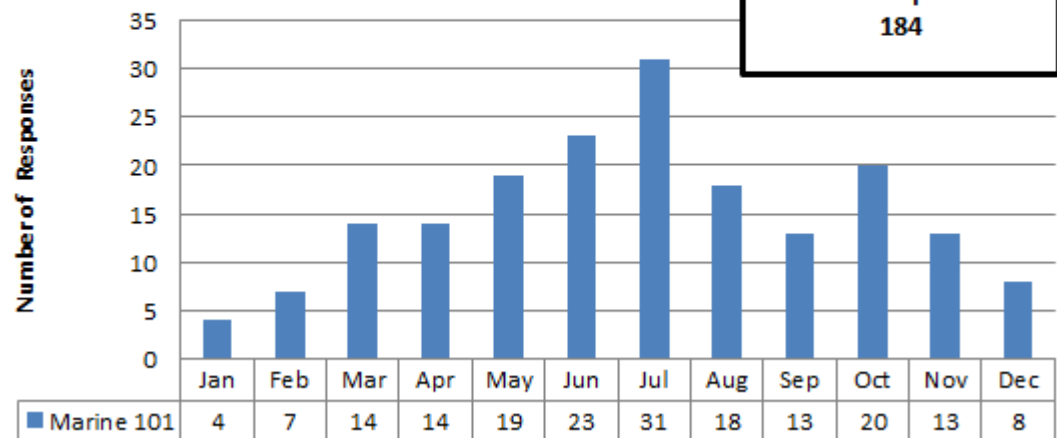


Marine 101 on patrol



Marine 101 supplying water from the Cooper River to land based units operating at the Sunoco Recycling Fire

2015 Apparatus Response Marine 101



Operations Division: Special Operations - Honor Guard

The Honor Guard is comprised of 21 trained personnel that work together as a ceremonial unit. Their primary role is to provide funeral honors for fallen emergency responders as well as stand guard at their calling hours. The Charleston Fire Department Honor Guard also serves as the “guardians of the colors” as they escort and display the national flag at ceremonial occasions including departmental graduations, departmental promotions, and community, statewide, and national events.

Members of the Honor Guard are required to attend training and ceremonies to remain active with the team. Each October, four members travel to Emmitsburg, Maryland to participate in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend at the National Fire Academy. They work in concert with other emergency service honor guards to honor fallen firefighters. The Honor Guard deploys approximately 20 -25 times per year.



Members of the Honor Guard Leading the 2015 Fire Prevention Parade

Peer Fitness Training Program

In its continued effort to reduce on the job injuries and improve the health and wellness of its personnel, the Charleston Fire Department has adopted and implemented a Peer Fitness Training Program. A team of personnel has been certified as peer fitness trainers to standards established in the Wellness Fitness Initiative (WFI). The WFI is a joint venture between the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), in collaboration with the American Council of Exercise (ACE). The WFI seeks to promote wellness over time to maintain fit, healthy, and capable firefighters throughout their career and into retirement. The fire department’s Health and Wellness program works with the City of Charleston’s Wellness Coordinator.



Peer Fitness Training Cadre attending class in Charlotte, NC. Josh Turner, Kyle Bishop, Casey Nestor, Captain Herb Scott, City Wellness Coordinator Jan Park.

Training & Technical Services Division

The Training & Technical Services Division is an integral part of the CFD. The division overseen by Deputy Chief Mark Davis is responsible for the research, development, and delivery of all training to the fire department whether it is annual recertification, recruit or new technology training in the field of fire or EMS.

In addition, the division also coordinates maintenance projects at the department's 17 worksites, new station construction, renovations of existing facilities, and up fitting of automotive apparatus. Our fleet team maintains and repairs the departments 22 front line response apparatus, reserve units, fire boat as well as a fleet of emergency and non-emergency passenger vehicles.



Members of Fleet Services working diligently to keep apparatus in working order



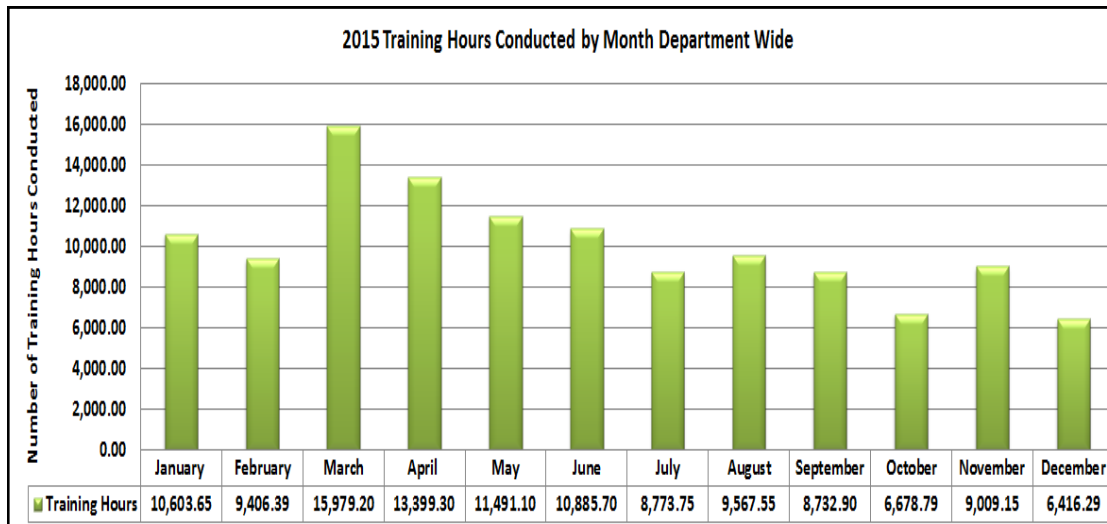
Charleston Fire Department Training Tower

Training & Technical Services Division: Training Division

The Training Division supports the Charleston Fire Department's mission of preserving life and property. They do this by ensuring a level of professionalism in everything they do. Training Division staff provides training, education, and personal development opportunities to all of our firefighters and officers.

The Training Division is led by Training Director Robert Baldwin who reports to the Deputy Chief of Training and Technical Services.

The department has a total of 38 South Carolina Fire Academy Certified instructors in its ranks. Six of the 38 are assigned to the Training Division, the other 32 work on the front line and serve in an adjunct instructor capacity on their days not on shift.



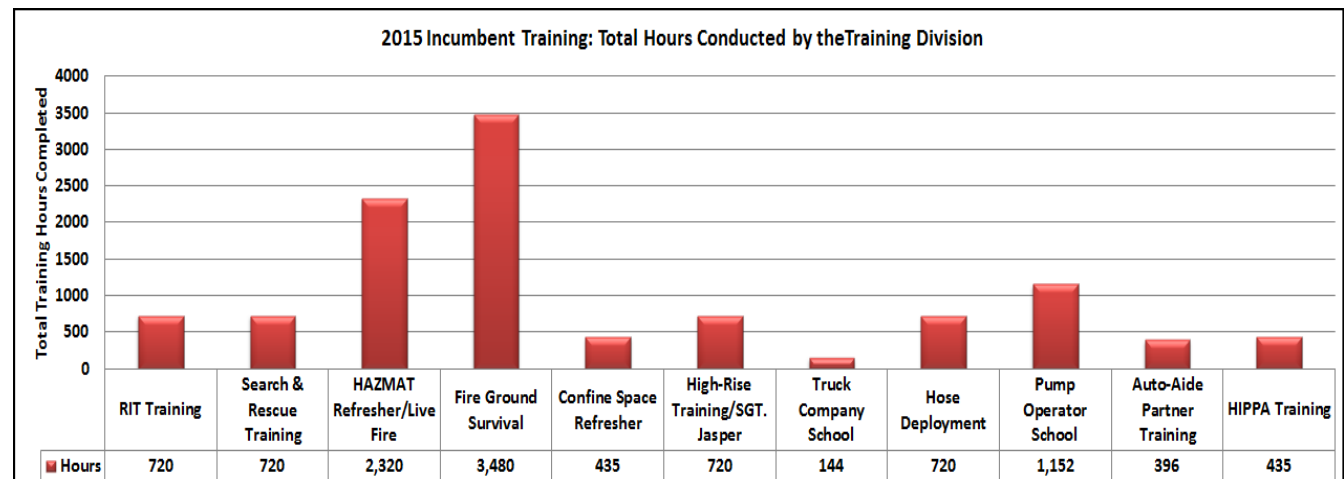
Firefighter Memorial Bell at Training Facility



Training Director Robert Baldwin



Emergency Medical Services Training Simulation Lab





Bail-out Training



2015 Graduating Recruit Class

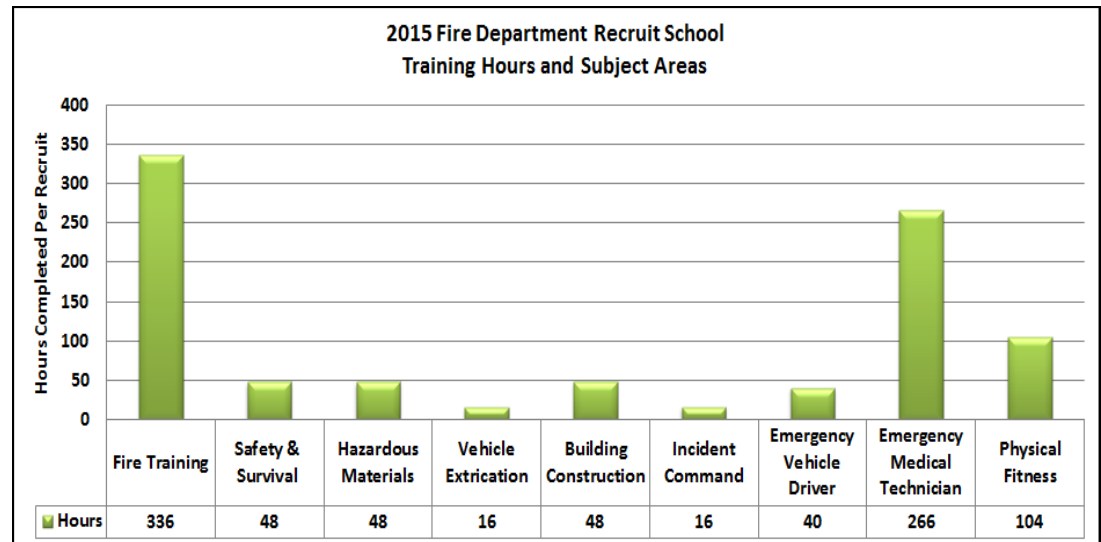
In 2015, twenty-seven recruits began a six month journey to become Charleston Firefighters. Twenty-four graduated successfully and now serve our community.



Entanglement/Self-Rescue Training



Multi-jurisdictional drill conducted at Archer School

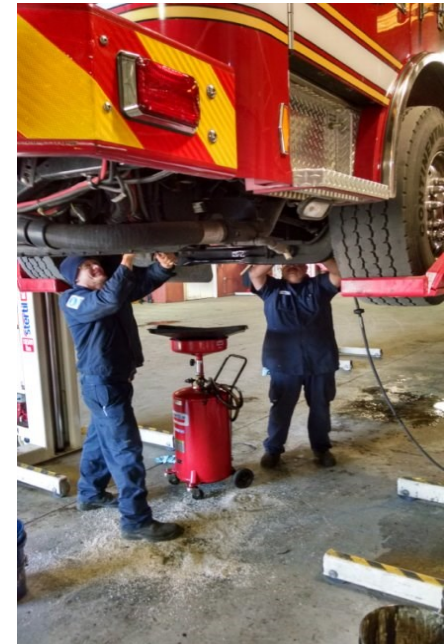


Training & Technical Services Division: Technical Services

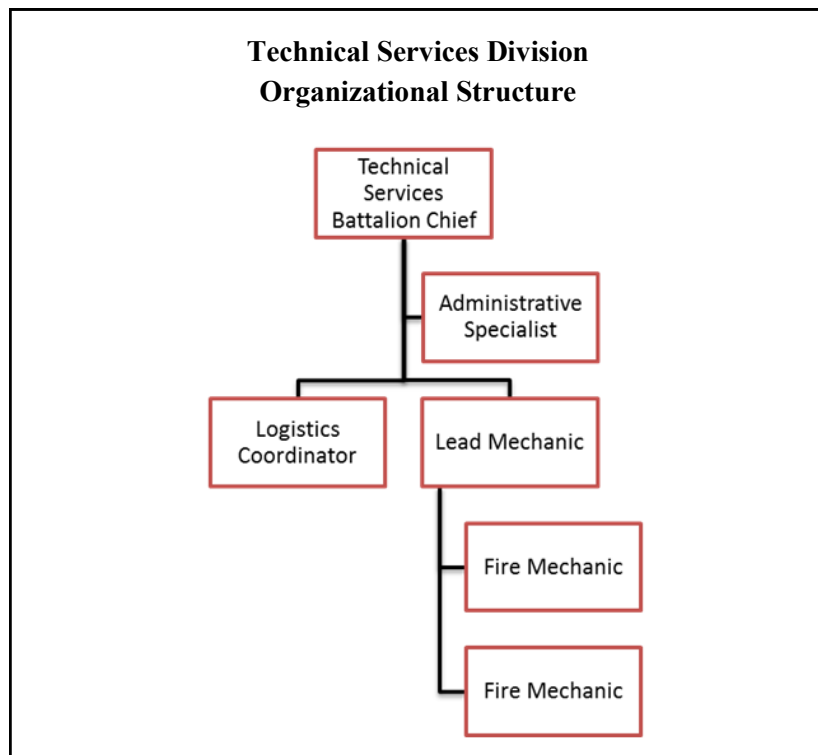
Technical Services oversees logistics, facility management, and fleet maintenance. This division is currently led by Battalion Chief Troy Williams who reports to the Deputy Chief of Training and Technical Services. He has direct oversight of Technical Services Division's daily operations. Logistics and fleet maintenance are divided into the following sections: fire apparatus maintenance/repair, general vehicle maintenance/repair, small engine maintenance/repair, facility maintenance/repair, and logistical needs such as facility supplies, uniforms, and personal protective equipment. Logistics and fleet maintenance are managed by a logistics coordinator and lead mechanic. Staff generally work Monday through Friday, but are subject to after-hours call back based on department needs.



Technical Services
Battalion Chief
Troy Williams



Mechanics completing preventative
maintenance on fire apparatus



Renovated kitchen at
Fire Station 15 on
Coming Street



Technical Services: Logistics

Logistics is responsible for ensuring that station repairs are completed in a timely manner. This section is also responsible for issuing and tracking of uniforms, personal protection equipment (PPE), loose tools and equipment, and issuing of supplies to maintain facilities. Logistics maintains a cache of replacement equipment and protective clothing.



Logistics Coordinator
Will Garwood

Technical Services: Fleet Services

Fleet Services is comprised of Lead Mechanic Bill Palmer and two fire mechanics. These mechanics are certified Automotive Services Excellence (ASE) and Emergency Vehicle Technicians (EVT). Fleet services is responsible for ensuring that equipment, vehicles, and apparatus are kept mechanically sound and ready to respond to emergencies. Fleet services performs the maintenance on all small engine powered equipment, equipment operated through electrical power supply as well as hydraulic equipment. Fleet services oversees annual third-party testing of aerial ladders, ground ladders, and fire pumps on apparatus.



Mechanics working on fire apparatus using mobile truck lifts.



Lead Mechanic
Bill Palmer

Technical Services: SCBA Maintenance Program

Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) are worn by all fire department personnel operating in atmospheres that are considered to be Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH). The SCBA Maintenance Program ensures: the department has an adequate quantity of properly trained SCBA Technicians, an adequate supply of approved SCBA replacement parts on-hand, and all SCBAs are tested at least once annually, and repaired as needed.

The Charleston Fire Department has 10 personnel certified to test and repair SCBAs. The program is conducted by using personnel when they complete their normal work shift.



SCBA Repair Technician rebuilding a regulator



Firefighter wearing PPE and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Technical Services: PPE Maintenance Program

The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program works in conjunction with the SCBA Maintenance Program. Members working in this program are also cross-trained as SCBA Repair Technicians. This program performs annual testing of the protective clothing ensemble worn by firefighters. The ensemble provides limited thermal protection from elevated temperatures encountered during firefighting operations. Technicians clean, inspect, and repair components of the ensemble at least annually or as needed.

This program ensures that all personnel have proper protection to perform firefighting operations and reduces the downtime of gear being out of service. This program has increased efficiency by having in-house personnel trained to perform testing and repairs, virtually eliminating the need to send the gear off to an outside vendor for routine cleaning, inspection, and repair.



PPE Repair Technician repairing damaged turnout gear

Fire Marshal Division

The Fire Marshal Division (FMD) was created in July 2010 and the responsibilities of the Fire Code Official were transferred from the Building Official to the newly created fire marshal position. This newly formed division is striving to build a robust fire prevention program that includes the elements of fire code enforcement, fire plan review, fire and arson investigation, and community risk reduction education. Organizing these elements under a fire marshal allows the department to expand its community risk reduction mission and promote preventative strategies to preserve our historic community.

The mission of the FMD is to preserve life and property through community safety education, effective fire inspections, detailed fire plan reviews, and comprehensive fire investigations. Our vision is to be a model agency in fire prevention, community engagement and risk reduction while promoting firefighter, citizen, and community safety and property preservation.

The division is currently responsible for conducting fire safety surveys of new and existing buildings, conducting business license fire safety inspections, reviewing plans for fire code compliance, conducting fire and arson investigations, and coordinating a variety of community risk reduction education programs. The division manages several elements for the department including: public information requests, coordinates the pre-fire plan and hydrant maintenance programs, manages public education supplies and materials, and news releases. Additionally, the community educator serves as the Public Information Officer (PIO) and provides timely educational messages for the community while managing our media contacts and multimedia outreach.



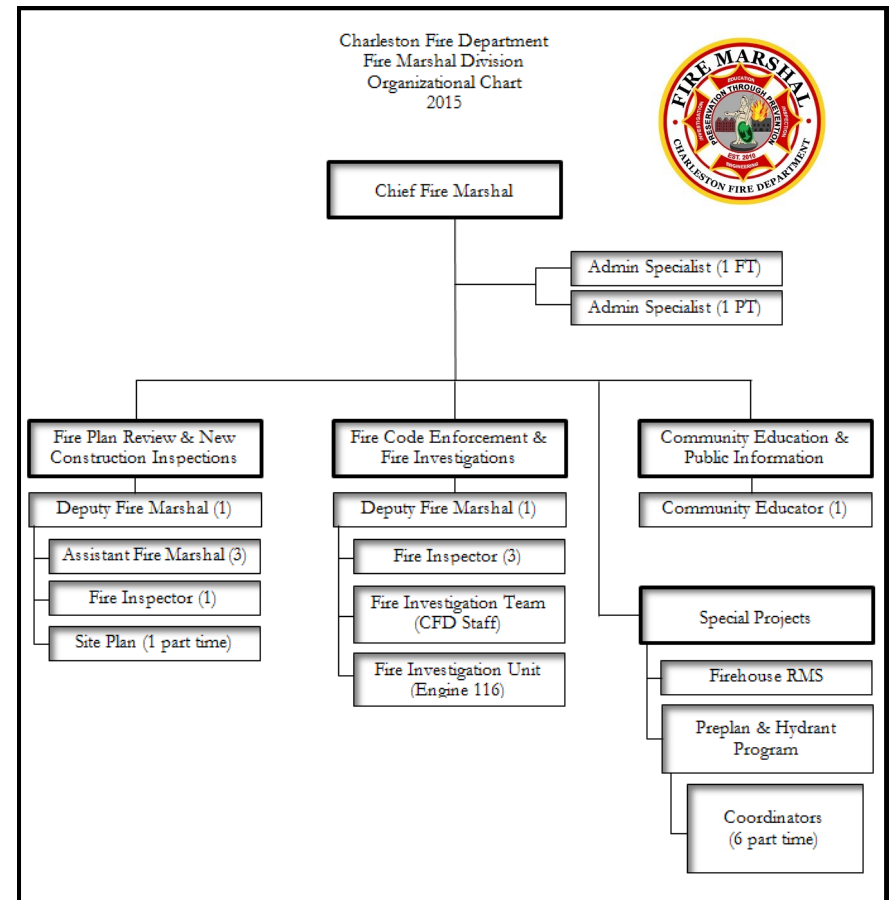
Deputy Fire Marshal
Rick Anewalt



Deputy Fire Marshal
Rick Fluegge



Community Educator
Ryan Kunitzer

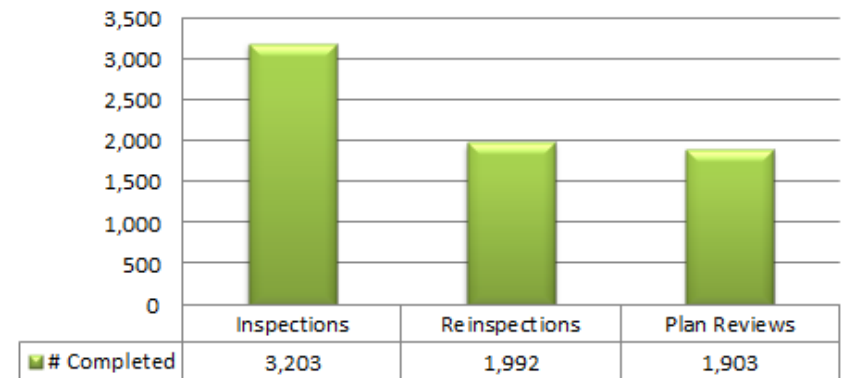


Community Outreach and Education Activities



Engine 116 C-Shift at Fire Prevention display

2015 Fire Code Enforcement and Fire Plan Reviews Summary



Type of Community Outreach Event	Count	Adults	Children	Smoke Alarms	Car Seats
Apparatus Tours	17	73	316	0	0
Canvas (After the Fire)	31	112	23	31	0
Canvas (Pre Fire)	217	1418	881	145	0
Car Seat Event (Checkpoint)	5	135	5	0	57
Car Seat Install	1	1	0	0	0
Career Day	3	16	135	0	0
Community Outreach Event	55	1205	1322	0	0
Detector Install, Inspection, or Battery Change	87	87	13	96	0
Display or Booth	6	150	95	0	0
Emergency & Response Training - Residents	4	145	0	0	0
Emergency & Response Training - Staff	1	75	0	0	0
Fire/Emergency Drill	4	105	0	0	0
Mentor Program	4	15	17	0	0
Parade or festival	9	1060	430	0	0
Safety Education - Information Distribution	1	0	0	0	0
Safety Presentation - Business	4	175	0	0	0
Safety Presentation - General	7	242	90	0	0
Safety Presentation - Neighborhood Association	1	12	0	0	0
Safety Presentation - School	35	267	1859	0	0
Station Tour	26	56	132	0	0
YFQ (Juvenile firesetter intervention)	1	0	0	0	0
Totals of Events and Contacts	519	5349	5318	272	57

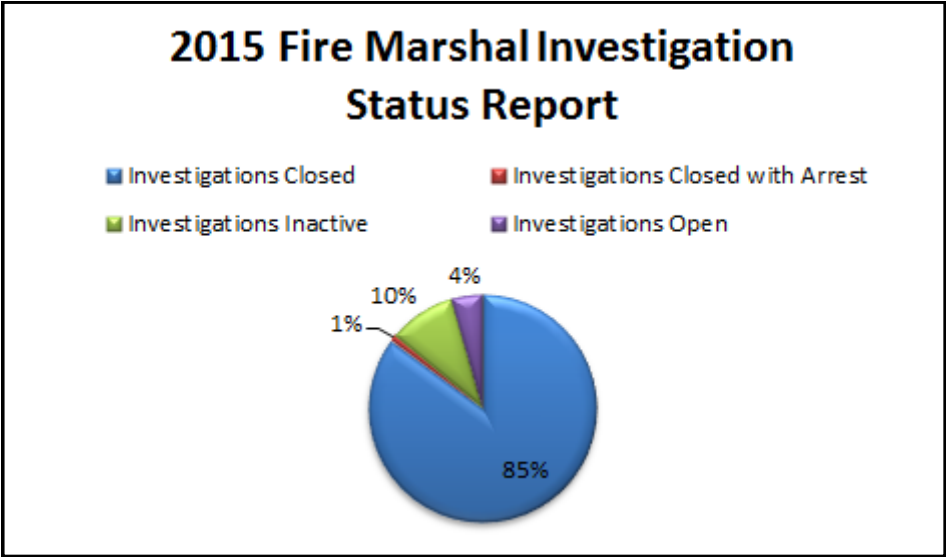
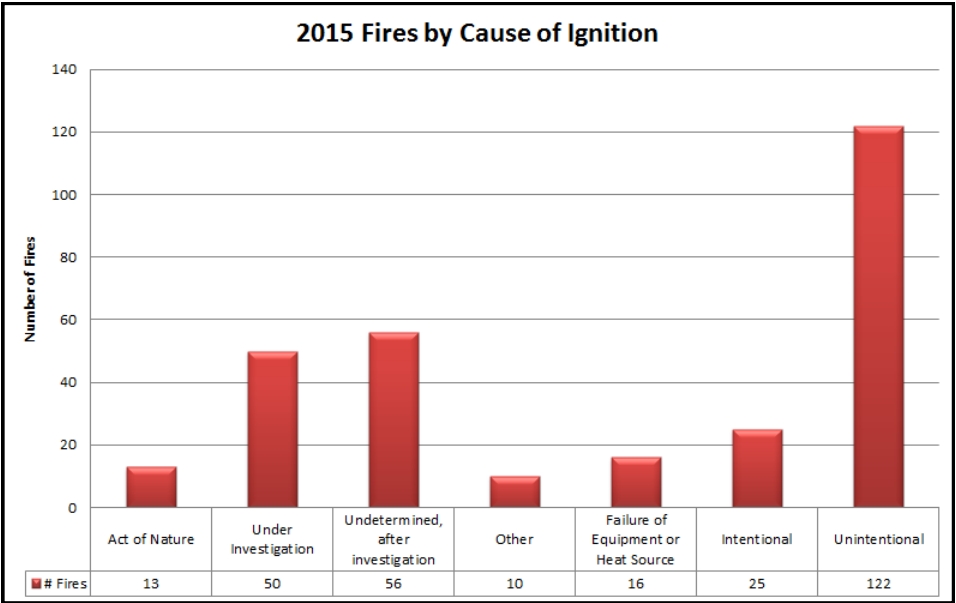


Fire Inspector teaching proper use of fire extinguishers

Fire Investigation Activities



Fire Investigator searching through debris looking for evidence to determine origin and cause of a fire

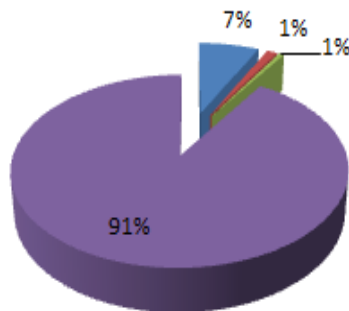


Fire Investigator taking scene photographs to determine origin and cause of a fire

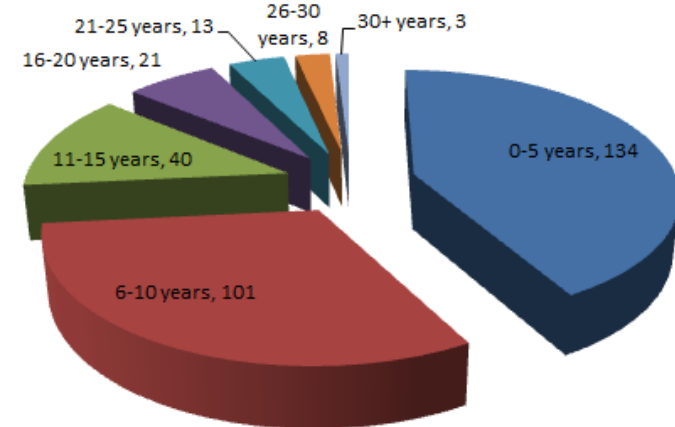
Fire Department Personnel Statistical Information

2015 Fire Department Demographics by Race

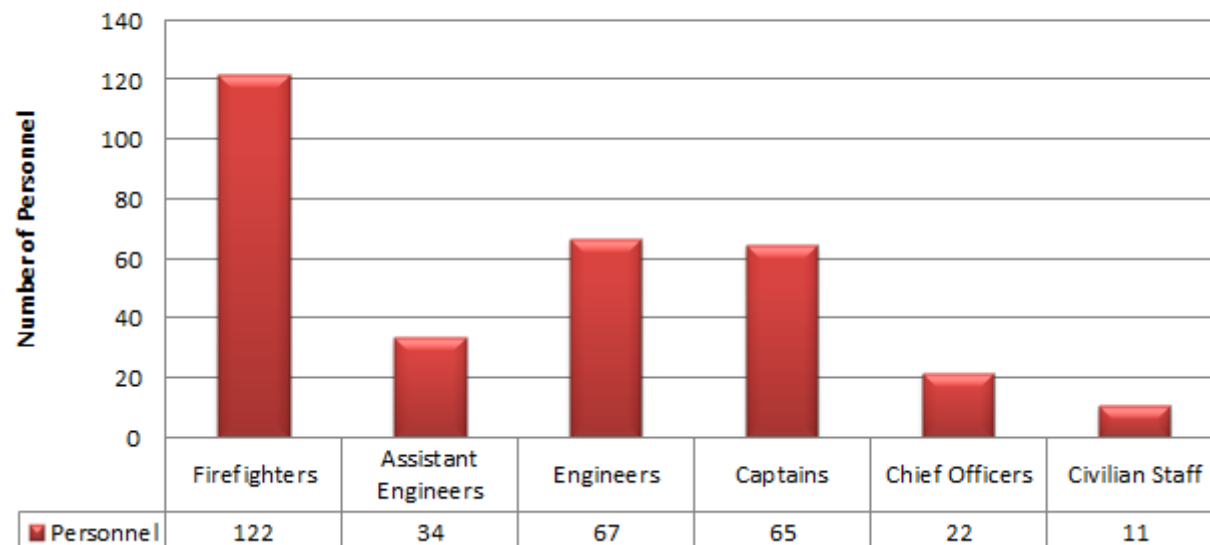
■ African American ■ Asian/Pacific ■ Hispanic ■ White



Fire Department Personnel by Years of Service



2015 Fire Department Personnel by Position



Charleston Fire Department: Awards and Promotions



Captain Anthony Morley receives the 2015 Knights of Columbus Firefighter of the Year Award.



2015 Awards

Commendation

Engr. P. Gessner - Commendation for effecting a rescue while off duty.

Unit Citation– CPR Save

Capt. P. Hinson, Engr. P. Tumminia,
FF R. Sacco, FF K. Riffe

Act. Capt. D. Cartensen,
Engr. P. Tumminia,
FF A. DeSantis, FF D. Kerns

Act. Capt. S. Haun, Asst. Engr. N. Smith,
FF D. Frye, Probationary FF N. Rosenthal

Unit Citation– Auto Extrication

Capt. P. Salvo, Engr. J. Goss,
FF S. McWethy, FF P. Dunn

Capt. A. Brewington, Engr. D. Steed,
FF D. Hodgeman, FF Keeling

Unit Citation– Overdose Save

Act. Capt. H. Marchand,
Asst. Engr. K. Gordon,
FF J. Hardin, FF A. Jones

2015 Fire Promotions

Battalion Chiefs

D. Felder
T. Hulseberg

Captains

D. Chavous
R. Delk
J. Ebling
A. Glover
J. Lemacks
T. Miles
C. Schurlknight
T. Tallent
C. Tennyson
C. Zailski

Engineers

D. Arthur
K. Bishop
P. Carne
F. Dabney
J. Goss
G. Kennewig
J. McCambridge
D. Morris
T. Nave
K. Peterson
S. Swigart
P. Tumminia
K. Watkins
S. Webb
D. Wolfe

Assistant Engineers

N. Boyer
J. Dunnigan
S. Farris
W. Finley
B. Grisham
V. Norcia
R. O'Shea
E. Polk
K. Riffe
N. Smith
H. Stafford
C. Sullivan
K. White
C. Willen
C. Zerfoss

IN MEMORY OF CHARLESTON'S FALLEN

MAY THEIR SACRIFICE NOT BE IN VAIN,
BUT BE HONORED BY ALLOWING US TO LEARN FROM OUR PAST
AND PAVE THE WAY FORWARD.

A/ENGR T. GOFF - MAY 25, 1901

DRIVER G. H. SANDERS - JUNE 4, 1902

F.F. E. PARSONS - SEPTEMBER 9, 1902

ENGR. W. NELSON - NOVEMBER 27, 1902

CHIEF O. G. MARJENHOFF - DECEMBER 27, 1906

F.F. A. L. KNICKMEYER- OCTOBER 6, 1910

ACT CHIEF M. J. MORRIS- JULY 17, 1915

F.F. G. H. ZWINGMANN - SEPTEMBER 5, 1915

ENGR. M. L. PRINCE - MAY 27, 1916

F.F. J. F. BRAINOVICH - SEPTEMBER 4, 1916

CHIEF LOUIS BEHRENS - OCTOBER 12, 1932

F.F. J. W. HENDRICKS - MAY 7, 1957

CAPT. E.C. THOMAS - JULY 10, 1961

F.F. H. T. FOSBERRY - OCTOBER 19, 1965

ENGR. F. W. SHEPHARD - DECEMBER 9, 1985

ENGR. R. D. MORRIS - JUNE 29, 1991

F.F. A. TILLMAN - APRIL 2, 1999

CAPT M. BENKE - JUNE 18, 2007

CAPT. W. HUTCHINSON - JUNE 18, 2007

CAPT. L. MULKEY - JUNE 18, 2007

ENGR. B. BAITY - JUNE 18, 2007

ENGR. M. KELSEY - JUNE 18, 2007

ASST. ENGR. M. FRENCH- JUNE 18, 2007

F.F. M. CHAMPAIGN - JUNE 18, 2007

F.F. J. DRAYTON - JUNE 18, 2007

F.F. B. THOMPSON - JUNE 18, 2007

Cover Designed By:

Adam Hurst

Artist and Charleston Firefighter



CHARLESTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

1451 KING STREET EXTENSION

CHARLESTON, SC 29405

HEADQUARTERS: (843)720-1981